

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

The present claims no longer refer to “component” and “non-component” sides so the objections to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) and the 35 U.S.C. Section 112 rejections are respectfully traversed. Instead, the “component” and “non-component” sides have been redefined in terms of sides of a rectangular box that are in a specific relation to a connector.

Although the Office Action relies on *In re Japikse*, 181 F.2d 1019, 86 USPQ 70 (CCPA 1950) for the holding that “rearranging parts of an invention involves only routine skill in the art” (Office Action at page 4), a more complete statement of *In re Japikse* is that “Claims to a hydraulic power press which read on the prior art except with regard to the position of the starting switch were held unpatentable because shifting the position of the starting switch would not have modified the operation of the device.” (emphasis added) MPEP Section 2144.04 VI (C) Rearrangement of Parts.

Note that the arrangement of disk drives according to the present claims does act to modify the operation of the device by providing better heat conductivity and thermal characteristics of the operating devices. Note that thermal considerations are critical when drives are densely packed and if not properly handled the drives can stop functioning properly and can even be damaged or destroyed. Thus, applicant’s “rearrangement” of parts in the present invention does modify the operation of the device and *In re Japikse* does not apply.

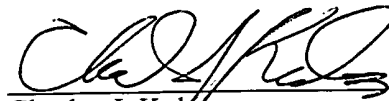
As stated in the Office Action, Fairchild “does not specifically teach having component sides of the storage devices facing away from each other”. Office Action at page 4, lines 8-10. In fact, Fairchild teaches away from this limitation since in Fairchild the same sides of the storage devices are always facing in the same direction and never “facing each other”.

Accordingly, the present claims are in condition for allowance and Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be

issued in this case. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-279-5098.

Respectfully submitted,

September 1, 2005
Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles J. Kulas', written over a horizontal line.

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